

In re: MacDonald et al.
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f2 cells, and further wherein said VEE particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

103. (Amended) A composition comprising infectious alphavirus particles in an amount effective to provide a protective immune response, wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a Her2 gene product, and wherein said alphavirus particles infect antigen-presenting cells, and further wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

104. (Amended) A composition comprising infectious Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) particles in an amount effective to provide a protective immune response, wherein said VEE particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a Her2 gene product, and wherein said alphavirus particles infect antigen-presenting cells, and further wherein said VEE particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

Please add the following new claims:

Sub. 63
105. (New) A composition comprising infectious alphavirus replicon particles in an immunogenically effective amount to prevent or treat cancer, wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a native cancer cell antigen, and wherein said alphavirus particles infect antigen-presenting cells.

106. (New) The composition of Claim 105, wherein said alphavirus replicon particles are Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) replicon particles.

107. (New) The composition of Claim 105, wherein said alphavirus replicon particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

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108. (New) The composition of Claim 105, wherein each of said one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences is operably associated with an alphavirus 26S subgenomic promoter.

109. (New) The composition of Claim 105, wherein said antigen-presenting cells are dendritic cells.

110. (New) A composition comprising infectious alphavirus replicon particles in an amount effective to provide a protective immune response, wherein said alphavirus particles comprise one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences encoding a Her2 gene product, and wherein said alphavirus particles infect antigen-presenting cells.

111. (New) The composition of Claim 110, wherein said alphavirus replicon particles are Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) replicon particles.

112. (New) The composition of Claim 110, wherein said alphavirus replicon particles comprise one or more attenuating mutations.

113. (New) The composition of Claim 110, wherein each of said one or more heterologous nucleotide sequences is operably associated with an alphavirus 26S subgenomic promoter.

114. (New) The composition of Claim 110, wherein said antigen-presenting cells are dendritic cells.